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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1916.

A Line o' Cheer Each Day o' the Year.
By JOHN KENDRICK BANGS.

First printing of an original poem, written daily for The Washington Herald.

A PARALLEL.

Who lets a passing bit of woe destroy
The wonder of a world replete with joy
Is no more wise than he who would deny
The smiling glory of the summer sky
Because he'd got a cinder in his eye.

(Copyright 1916.)

With United States Steel reaching a new high-water price, President E. H. Gary, now in China, may decide he can afford a longer vacation.

At least Federal Trade Commissioner Rublee, who has served since March, 1915, without compensation, cannot be called a pay roll patriot.

A British submarine commander thinks he hit the enemy twice. Fortunate commander that Representative A. P. Gardner is not his superior.

Two prisoners escaped from a New York prison in a high-powered touring car, but there are enough headed there by the same method to keep the averages even.

When the hens in Mount Vernon, N. Y., stagger from the effects of intoxicants, it suggests that the Prohibitionists might well start their national campaign there.

Senator Lodge files 48,000 signatures on his nomination papers when only 1,000 are necessary. He undoubtedly would like to maintain the average in votes on election day.

Senator Thomas (Democrat) condemns the Women's Congressional Union and Senator Borah (Republican) declares they add not a mite to Candidate Hughes' strength. Like all dressed up and no place to go.

Senator Underwood has made a vigorous defense of his pet child, the administration tariff law, but the defense would be much more impressive were it backed with facts, figures, and revenues instead of with what might have been.

While the American Federation of Catholic Societies, at its annual convention, made it plain that the organization was not in politics and was not as a body opposed to President Wilson, it is doubtful if the administration will send out the deliberations of the convention as a campaign document.

Already the allies have taken steps to enter their protest against the Thomas amendment in the shipping bill, which authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to refuse clearance papers to any vessel that refuses to carry an American cargo for any reason except lack of space. It is a retaliatory measure against the British blacklist which seems to be serving its purpose.

The German army was equipped with steel helmets long before the war was begun. After the conflict was well under way the French discovered that the percentage of head wounds sustained by their soldiers was much greater than the percentage in the German army. The French adopted the steel helmet. The British followed suit and now even the slow-moving Russians have equipped a small part of their forces with the best form of protection against head wounds. After Russia comes the United States with an announcement through the War Department that steel helmets for American soldiers are being "considered."

The German fleet wants another fight. It does not want a clash with the whole British grand fleet, but is seeking a conflict in which it can bite and run. The Germans were not only defeated in the battle of Jutland but were taught the lesson that a fight in which the full strength of the British sea forces is matched against the greatest strength that Germany can muster on the seas is a one-sided affair. Therefore, the Germans are trying to engage the British piecemeal, taking off a fighting unit here and another one there. The latest battle has clearly revealed the German plan. The Teutons caught a scouting force and succeeded in sinking two cruisers. The battle was easily a German victory but the British learned a lesson. As a result of this lesson the British fleet yet may succeed in getting between the enemy fleet and its base and then the greatest battle of all time will be fought.

A great many people who do not believe that Mr. Hughes has sold out to the hyphenates, or that a fund has been raised at Berlin for his election, have nevertheless been waiting for the simple statement from Mr. Hughes that he wants no one to support him in the belief that he elected he would be "fairer" to Germany than Wilson has been. Such a statement would be worth ever so much more than general affirmations about Americanism. And the declaration by German-American organizations that in Hughes they will have a truly "neutral" President makes such an explicit pronouncement from Mr. Hughes imperative.—New York Post.

Where Is the Blame?

The report by Mr. Feeney, chairman of the national committee on public morals, to the American Federation of Catholic Societies, at a recent session held in New York City, does not surprise one, and probably it doesn't. It is just such a report as a self-respecting layman who had investigated the matter would be likely to make before so dignified and important a body as the federation, composed, as it is, of prominent clergymen and laymen of the largest religious aggregation in the country.

Said Mr. Feeney in his report: "Indecency and immorality are to an extent still exploited for the entertainment of morbid libensities, and the conscienceless manager has the assurance to tell you that his problem plays points a moral. It would take a powerful range finder to discover the moral."

That this was but a mild assault against the present day unwholesomeness of the drama every member of the federation who heard it must have agreed. Every Catholic layman who is even an occasional theatergoer knows that there are worse influences at work upon the drama than libens. Every clergyman at the meeting knows that the Scandinavian dramatist is not at the root of the degeneration which afflicts the modern stage. It is begging the question to accuse the managers of any concerted scheme to educate the theater-going public up to the more or less frank naturalism of libens and his school.

Theatrical managers have no ambition to educate the public. Their commercial shrewdness enables them to gauge pretty accurately what the public taste demands and they govern themselves accordingly, without going very deeply into the ethics of the business. It is absurd to say that any manager ever is led into the production of a play which savors of prurience by his individual preference for that sort of literature. On the contrary, there is every reason to believe that many reputable managers have as profound a distaste for "off-color" plays as have those who go to see them at the risk of being scandalized. They are simply purveyors to a more or less depraved public taste and their interests in the productions they offer is purely commercial. The legitimate manager does not profess to be an educator of his public.

Of course the playwrights may be charged justly with a share of the mischief. No moralist would venture to decide that it were better for a writer to reap the unrighteous fruits of a questionable dramatic effort than to starve in his garret. It may always be said of the manager, "Let him abandon his business and go into something which is less antagonistic to morality." It may also be said of the playwright, "Let him drop his pen and make a shift to sustain himself by less objectionable methods." But what shall be said of the public which refuses to take its drama unless it is spiced far too highly to promote good digestion?

The Wrong Place to Prune.

When the great war ends it is predicted that a trade war will follow. The world will be after our markets and we will be after those of the world.

The late James J. Hill, one of the farseeing men of our times, predicted a trade readjustment, in which all countries would be involved, and that tariffs would play a leading part.

Mr. Hill was one of the foremost advocates of a permanent nonpartisan tariff commission, and he strongly maintained that only big men with a world grasp should be put upon such a commission, as the subject was very complex, the duties would be exacting, and the whole subject was of such importance that great care should be taken to have this commission with a personnel that would command the respect and confidence of the public.

It should be obvious that only the best results can be had by dealing with big questions in a big way. This is no place for cheese-paring. The tariff commission should have the dignity and pay equal to the Federal Reserve Board. It will require ability second to no other commission that has been created or proposed. When the Rainey bill was drawn the salary was fixed at \$12,000 per year, but the Ways and Means Committee reported it out at \$10,000 and then the House cut it to \$7,500. The Senate Finance Committee put it back to \$10,000, and then the Democratic caucus reduced it the House figure. Economy is to be commended but this is no place for the pruning hook.

Masqueraders.

The spectacle of the Democrats in Congress posing as protectionists is one that should make the dead and gone saints of the party stir in their tombs. The new revenue bill that has just been put through the House is so full of Republican ideas and principles that it can hardly be claimed as Democratic in anything but name. It still retains some of the features of Bourbonism, but in the main is so progressive that a large number of the Republicans could easily vote for it because of its endorsement of Republican principles. Chief among the features of the bill in this regard is the revival of the tariff commission, originally provided for by present administration came to power, and killed as one of its first acts. Protective duties, calculated to encourage the development of new industries, are also included.

It must not be accepted that the Democrats have taken up the principle of protection because of conviction. On the other hand, it is exclusively a matter of expediency with them. For two generations they have denounced the forms of legislation, wherever their belated resort to it is the more iniquitous of all forms of legislation, and they have been wrong at least. Their present revenue bill is a confession of the correctness of Republican principles. Disaster, due to free trade experiment, has compelled the dominant party to confess its blunder, and to give the country at least a measure of sound government.

The new revenue measure is also remarkable because of its wide departure from the provisions of the Underwood bill that was so fulsomely indorsed at the St. Louis convention, and which is praised in the platform as embodying the "Democratic idea of a tariff measure." The Democrats certainly are at sea.—Omaha Bee.

It is for a like reason the American people thank God for Wilson. They are not so silly as to believe him perfect. They recognize he has made mistakes, as he himself recognizes it. But the mistakes have not been disastrous ones. And they are overshadowed by the great monuments of achievement that have preserved from woe and desolation the land we love and the homes we have built in it. Mr. Hughes, in his plea for keeping experienced men in office, is putting up a powerful argument for the election of President Wilson and a Democratic Congress. The Democratic National Committee will be making a great mistake if it fails to circulate his Detroit speech as a campaign document.—Omaha World-Herald.

Seen and Heard by George Miner.

Merida, Yucatan, Aug. 23.—A gang of convicts in blue-and-white striped cotton jackets and trousers was carrying iron beams into a new government building that is being erected on the main plaza. A couple of picturesque soldiers, with brown faces, yellow uniforms, bare feet and liberally decorated with cartridge belts walked behind them. What with their three loaded cartridge belts and Mauser rifles the soldiers had almost as much to carry as did the convicts. And the sunshine was just as hot for one as the other.

A Yucatan gentleman of one of the old and wealthy families, Senor Amadas Cardenas, was driving with me when we passed these unhappy mortals.

"What have most of those convicts been guilty of?" I asked. "Stealing?"

"No," he replied, "There is comparatively little stealing being done. Most of those men are doing time, as you call it, for getting drunk. That's a serious crime here now. Nearly all the rest are there because they are vagrants—that is, tramps, hoboes, bums, whatever you please to call them. In other words, men who don't work and won't work. In this country that is a crime, for here the great need is labor. There is work here for 300,000 men laborers and so there is no occasion for any man to be idle, and consequently being idle is a wrong to the state. There is no reason whatever for an unemployed class."

Booze fighters and loafers have a hard time of it here. Very little mercy is shown them.

This state of affairs is very largely due to the energetic and persistent efforts of Gov. Alvarado, who in the year and a half he has had control of Yucatan has pretty nearly wiped out drunkenness and idleness. He made it a crime not only to sell spirits, but also even to have them in one's possession. This applies only to hard drinks. Of beer and wine there is plenty to be had, but they are both rather expensive. The wine, which is all imported, costs more than it does in the United States. There is plenty of beer made in Mexico, but it is weak and sweet and rather insipid. Also it costs 25 cents a bottle in American money. Getting drunk on it is quite out of the question for several reasons. One is that the average Yucatecan couldn't afford to.

To show the rigor with which the law against drunkenness is being enforced, I will give an incident that occurred only last night. In one of the smaller and cheap hotels, of which there are a number in Merida, a man from one of the inland towns had a room and a bottle of whisky or brandy or whatever it was. He drank it up and then started out to paint the town red. That was just what he came to the city for.

But it so happened that when he emerged from the hotel about midnight noisy and hilarious a little brown policeman was standing on the corner. The hilarious one had not gone ten steps before he was gathered into the arms of the law and taken to the lock-up. This morning, when he was taken before the judge, he refused to tell where he got the liquor.

He was not fined or reprimanded or anything of the sort. He was sentenced to six months in the workhouse, which is the penitentiary. There is only one prison here for all classes. They don't try to coddle people here who break the law. They simply punish them.

This man was not a peon or of the laboring class. He is a merchant in the small town he came from. Today he will be wearing one of those blue-and-white striped suits and working on the roads or the public buildings, with an unpleasant looking soldier carrying a loaded rifle behind him to see to it that he don't shirk.

Of course this law is not only a good one morally, but also physically, for it is a perfectly idiotic thing for any one to drink alcohol in this climate. It is hot and sticky in the daytime and everybody regulates his costume and diet and work to be as comfortable as possible. The least little alcohol will upset all their precautions, however, and make existence almost unendurable.

Nobody but a fool would drink spirits in this sunbaked country, and so the law is not such a drastic one as it seems.

Railroad managers are now worrying over a probable shortage of cars next fall when the time comes for moving the crops. There was a serious shortage last year. The crop this year will be much greater than that of 1915, but the movement is not likely to be much less. The loss in the crop will be apparent mainly in lessened surplus to carry over. Also, it is to be noted that manufacturing has increased greatly, as compared with a year ago, and that domestic business has expanded. This means a greater demand for cars.—Buffalo Express.

Extravagance is Democratic. Economy is Republican. That is the Republican gospel.

It is true that in this State of New York the annual expenses of the State government run much more than \$15,000,000 in the fiscal year of Gov. Flower's administration to \$30,000,000 in the final year of Gov. Hughes' administration.

Is it true that the annual increase in Gov. Hughes' administrations averaged more than \$3,500,000, while in those of his Republican predecessors, Morton, Black, Roosevelt, Odell, and Higgins, it averaged some \$380,000?

Is it true that in the Republican State of Pennsylvania "requisitions for money to the State treasury without available cash to fill them," that State Treasurer Young is quoted as declaring the Commonwealth in worse financial condition today than it has been for forty years; that "when the Commonwealth closed its books for its fiscal year, which ended November 30, a deficit of nearly \$3,000,000 was revealed?"

We read these statements with caution. They must be the product of bigoted Democratic manipulators of the verities. Businesslike administration is Republican. Waste, extravagance, inefficiency, are Democratic.—New York Times.

It is the theory of the bosses of the National Woman's Party that they have the votes of 2,000,000 women to sell to the highest bidder.

It is the theory of Mr. Hughes that he has bought these votes for himself by indorsing a suffrage amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

In other words, Mr. Hughes proposes that in order to get these votes the Constitution of the United States shall be put on the auction block and the legislatures of States that represent a minority of the population shall regulate the suffrage in the domestic affairs of States that represent a majority of the population.

We shall not discuss the political morality of that transaction at this time. It seems to differ in no way from the method by which political bosses secure the vice vote in certain cities and by which a Hannazard Republican party obtained the solid support of Wall Street. It is simply traffic in government.

2,000,000 women voters can be delivered by their gilded bosses through such a corrupt bargain, these women are not fit to vote and ought to be disfranchised. The morality of American politics is low enough without having it further debauched by the sale of a sex en masse.—New York World.

AFTER DINNER POLITICS

By DR. E. J. EDWARDS, Author of "New News of Yesterday," Etc.

FILLMORE'S LACK OF DECISION.

Millard Fillmore has been described to me by the late Commodore Van Santvoord of New York as a most imposing personality when, as Vice President, he presided over the Senate. He did not have the grace and the capacity, by quiet personal force to control the Senate in moments of turbulence which characterized another New York Vice President, William H. Wheeler, who was Vice President in the administration of President Hayes.

The Senators early discovered that Vice President Fillmore was a man of much indecision, not given to quick action. There was some disorder in the Senate when he was accustomed to talk lightly with the little gavel, but in doing so he made no impression upon the Senators. At last, having been unable to draw the attention of the chamber, he would throw up his hands and, in a gesture of despair, lean back in his chair and permit the Senators to have their way.

This pronounced indecision, hesitation and indisposition to quick action caused much commotion among the Senators when it was known that President Taylor, in July, 1850, was dangerously ill, having been overcome by an attack of cholera morbus. For if the vice president was unable to perform the duties of the office, the question of succession to the presidency would be through the death of President Taylor he were called upon to assume the duties of chief executive? The apprehension of the Senators, and especially the Whig Senators, was justified. President Taylor died a few days after he was overcome by the attack.

Millard Fillmore, who began life as a wool carder in a village near Buffalo, N. Y., became President of the United States. The Whig Senators were persuaded that Fillmore should in justice to himself rearrange the cabinet, but when they told him that was their opinion, he hesitated. William H. Seward told him, Frederick W. Seward, that he was greatly concerned lest Fillmore's habits of indecision and procrastination be harmful to the Whig party. At last Fillmore consented to make Cabinet changes, but he could not decide upon the statesman to whom he should proffer the office of Secretary of State.

It was only by persuasion of Senators that Fillmore at last agreed to appoint Daniel Webster, then a Senator, Secretary of State, provided Webster would accept. Fillmore's reason for hesitation was that he thought Webster might be of greater service to the Whig party if he remained in the Senate than if he became Secretary of State. Seward suspected that Fillmore had a secret reason for hesitating about appointing Webster Secretary of State, for the President was a man somewhat given to jealousy of his official authority and personal influence. At last he was persuaded, however, to nominate Webster Secretary of State. Webster was given the office, and the country would say that if Webster was Secretary of State he would govern the country from the administration side, while Henry Clay would be the Whig leader in the Federal Senate.

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The Herald's Army and Navy Department

Latest and Most Complete News Service and Personnel Published in Washington.

An aviation fleet for the United States Coast Guard, which comprises the Revenue Cutter Arthur R. Mowbray, Life Saving Service, is provided for in a section of the naval appropriation bill which has just passed Congress.

The fleet will be used for the saving of life and property in case of shipwreck, and will serve as a more effective patrol than the revenue cutters over difficult stretches of coast and sea. The fleet also will be used constantly as a means of communication between ships and shore.

The naval appropriation act authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to select ten points on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts to be used as aerial coast guard stations. An aviation school with an instructor and an assistant instructor will be established, and fifteen additional officers and forty mechanics and helpers will be added to the personnel of the service.

Twenty aeroplanes probably will be needed, costing approximately \$200,000, and the additional equipment and stations are expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000. Annual maintenance probably will be \$15,000.

The father of the project is Capt. Benjamin H. Chiswell, of the coast guard cutter Omahonda. The idea was presented to him by Capt. Thomas of the United States navy. Capt. Chiswell, enthusiastic over the proposition, immediately interested Washington officials and members of Congress in the project.

The original bill was drafted by Capt. A. A. McVittie, chief engineer of the Coast Guard Service. The measure was introduced by Representative Montague. The Aero Club of America gave its full endorsement to the measure.

Lt. E. E. Berthel, commanding the Coast Guard, soon became interested in the plan, and when the Navy Aviation School at Pensacola offered to add in the project he assigned Second Lieut. Elmer St. John and Second Lieut. of Engineers Charles F. Suggen for instruction at the institution. Lieutenant St. John later was succeeded by Lieut. Norman B. Hall, who now is engaged in developing aeroplanes for the coast guard.

The Curtiss Aviation Camp at Newport News, Va., has offered aircraft, equipment, and experts for demonstrating the practicability of the aviation fleet as an adjunct of the Coast Guard Service. The Sperry Gyroscope Company also has offered its gyroscopic compass and aerial wireless for purposes of experimentation.

The War Department is receiving favorable reports concerning experiments conducted with the twelve Curtiss R-2 160-horsepower aeroplanes now in the hands of the First Aero Squadron at Columbus, N. M.

One of the six Curtiss twin-propeller aeroplanes, with two ninety-horsepower motors, recently ordered, has been received at Columbus and given preliminary trials. The remaining five machines will be shipped within a short time.

Preliminary work already is being done at San Antonio, Tex., on the organization of a second aero squadron for service in this country, to be known as the Third Squadron. It will be commanded by Maj. Benjamin D. Enloe, of the aviation corps, now in command of the First Squadron.

First Lieut. Walter G. Kilmer and Harold S. Martin, of the aviation section, have been detached from the First Aero Squadron and ordered to proceed to Mineola, N. Y., for duty as assistants to First Lieut. Joseph E. Carberry, of the aviation section, in charge of the aviation school at that place.

First Lieut. Arthur B. Christie, of the aviation section, also has been detached from the First Aero Squadron, and will proceed to Chicago for duty as assistant to First Lieut. Joseph C. Morrow, Jr., aviation officer, who will establish a flying school on Auburn field, in that city.

Children of non-resident parents can secure free tuition to the public schools of the District of Columbia only when one of the parents is employed in the District according to a decision by the Comptroller of the Treasury. In the cases of the children of officers and men living at Fort Myer, the Comptroller has decided that the officers and men living there must be actually at work in Washington or their children are to receive free tuition.

ARMY ORDERS.

First Lieut. Henry J. Damm will proceed to San Diego, Cal.

Capt. Charles S. Frank will report to Southern Department.

Capt. Edward M. Welles, Jr., will report to Southern Department.

Order to Capt. Oliver Edwards, General Staff, revoked.

EVERY ONE visiting Washington wishes to take away something as a remembrance of the visit to the Nation's Capital, or as a gift for friends at home.

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New York, Day by Day.

By O. O. MCINTYRE.

Special Correspondent of The Washington Herald.
New York, Aug. 23.—A quarter past eight on the morning of Tuesday, August 15, Percy P. Jerome sneezed. This announcement may not, at first blush, mean anything in your young life. But it was of great importance to 25,000 members of the United States Hay Fever Association.

Mr. Jerome, as founder of the Master Sneezers, thus started the official season. The Jerome sneeze took place in New York, and it was to take place in Bethlehem, N. J., the convention city, this year. The Jerome sneeze is something like the famous shot which, fired at Lexington, was heard all around the world.

Despite the medical experts who have been searching for a cure for hay fever, no remedy has been found. The nearest thing to a cure from a medical standpoint is the "skyscraper" cure. That is, those who live high in the air are able in a measure to defy the deadly ragweed pollen.

On several of the large New York hotels reservations have been made for hay fever victims to sleep during the sniffling snuffle period. The convention at Bethlehem has lured a delegation of 450 from Gotham.

The press agent at the Biltmore told me this, and I never knew a press agent to variate one iota from the truth. I will pass him a note to the Biltmore and tell the Biltmore to get a room and take a seat. Before ordering a lunch he asked the waiter if he could recommend a good passing photograph place. The waiter looked at him in surprise.

"Did you want to have your photograph taken, sir?" he asked.

"Oh, no," replied the Englishman. "I simply wish to see a good passing photograph show. I have heard them called movies or something like that."

And then there is the yarn that Lou Rosenberg, an advertising man, tells. A few years ago he was over in London when he was told by a friend, an Englishman, that the Englishman was proud of their interesting places.

"Well," said Rosenberg, "your city is very delightful indeed, but you should see our electric signs on Broadway. Some of them are 150 feet in size."

"Interesting, if true," said the Englishman. "But aren't they frightfully conspicuous?"

Herb Roth, who has quit caricaturing for a couple of months to join the navy, was being entertained by a group of friends before his departure. After the banquet he went back to an automobile in Forty-third street waiting for a street car to go home.

While he was waiting something happened and he found himself in a heap in the gutter. It seems that the automobile had backed up, but Roth thought it was an explosion.

A sweet young lady, with gray shoes, a yellow gown and a hand-painted hat, lifted him up and told him it was all right. He was not hurt. He thanked her profusely and watched her and admired her as she walked away. And then he reached to adjust his scarf and it was gone.

His car carried about this time and he hoped on whistling. "You're a Doggone Dangerous Girl," until the conductor politely asked him to hire a hall. He is glad he's joining the navy.

Down at Luna Park there is a captive balloon and a huge sign says: "Excursion trip to the clouds, 50¢." Up to date no one has asked how much it is for a one-way trip.

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